

Abstract

A method and apparatus for screening short message service (SMS) and/or multimedia message service (MMS) calls. An originator of an SMS/MMS call is checked for authorization to send the type of message (e.g., to roamers, to non-local destinations, broadcast messages). If the caller is found to be authorized then the called party or parties are checked to determine whether they are screening calls of the type and from the source of the caller. In either case, if the telecommunications network determines that the call should be blocked the caller is notified and the call is not completed. Advantageously, this arrangement sharply reduces the amount of SPAM delivered by SMS/MMS service.